

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 599

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 5440

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM BYROADE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PK, IR, SA

SUBJ: PAKISTAN MILITARY SUPPLY PROBLEMS

1. BHUTTO ASKED THAT I HAVE A FINAL SESSION WITH HIM IN LAHORE PRIOR TO MY DEPARTURE TODAY. HIS MAIN PURPOSE IN CALLING ME DOWN WAS TO HAVE ME PASS TO YOU AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE ON PAKISTAN MILITARY SUPPLY PROBLEMS.

2. BHUTTO WANTED ME TO TELL YOU THAT AS OF NOW HE IS NOT SANGUINE THAT THE SHAH WILL HELP PAKISTAN FINANCIALLY WITH ITS DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS. ALTHOUGH THERE HAD BEEN CORRESPONDENCE AND DISCUSSION WITH THE SHAH THAT HAD SUGGESTED THAT IRANIAN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WOULD BE FORTHCOMING, THE LAST WORD RECEIVED BY BHUTTO FROM THE IRANIAN AMBASSADOR HERE IS THAT IRAN IS NOT IN A POSITION AT THE MOMENT TO DO ANYTHING SPECIFIC IN THIS REGARD. THE IRANIAN AMBASSADOR TOLD BHUTTO THAT THE MATTER HAD BEEN KEPT UNDER CONTINUING REVIEW AND PERHAPS BY THE TIME OF NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET IRAN COULD BE MORE HELPFUL.

3. THIS OBVIOUSLY HAD BEEN A GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT TO BHUTTO. HE REFERRED TO THE SHAH'S TENDENCY TO BE MORE INFLUENCED BY THE LAST PERSON TO WHOM HE TALKS ON ANY GIVEN SUBJECT, AND HE OBVIOUSLY SUSPECTS THAT P.N. HAKSAR OF INDIA AND PRESIDENT DAOUD OF AFGHANISTAN HAD IMPRESSED THE SHAH WITH  
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THEIR ASSURANCES THAT NEITHER THE INDIANS OR THE AFGHANS

WERE UP TO MISCHIEF AS REGARDS PAKISTAN.

4. I ASKED BHUTTO IF IT WERE TRUE THAT HE IS GOING TO MAKE A TRIP TO SEE THE SAUDIS ON THE QUESTION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR MILITARY PURCHASES. HE SAID HE HOPED TO WITHIN TH NEXT MONTH BUT THAT HE DID NOT RELISH THE BEGGARD'S ROLE HE FOUND HIMSELF IN.

5. BHUTTO'S HOPE IS THAT GIVEN THE VERY FREQUENT CONTACT THAT YOU HAVE WITH THE SHAH AND THE SAUDIS YOU COULD TRY TO PERSUADE THEM TO BE A BIT MORE FORTHCOMING. HE SAID HE WAS SURE YOU COULD FIND A WAY TO DO SO IN A MANNER WHICH WOULD NOT MAKE IT APPEAR THAT BHUTTO HAD BEEN COMPLAINING TO US. I TOLD BHUTTO I WOULD OF COURSE PLAN TO TALK WITH YOU ON THESE MATTERS.

6. ADDENDUM. IN A LAST MINUTE DEVELOPMENT BHUTTO TELEPHONED SHORTLY BEFORE MY DEPARTURE THIS MORNING ASKING THAT I SEE AZIZ AHMED BEFORE I GOT ON THE PLANE. HE SAID THE IRANIAN AMBASSADOR HAD RETURNED AGAIN FROM TEHRAN WITH MORE ENCOURAGING WORD. IT TURNS OUT THAT THE WORD THE AMBASSADOR BROUGHT WAS THAT THE SHAH WOULD LIKE TO HELP PAKISTAN BUT WITH TWO CONDITIONS. THE FIRST WAS THAT HE FIND OUT HOW FAR THE AMERICANS WERE PREPARED TO GO IN SELLING EQUIPMENT TO PAKISTAN ANDTHESECOND WAS THAT HE WANTED TO WAIT BEFORE COMMITTING HIMSELF UNTIL AFTER THE OPEC MEETING IN SEPTEMBER WHEN HE COULD BETTER JUDGE THE FUTURE STATE OF IRAN'S FINANCES. FROM THIS IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE SHAH HIMSELF MIGHT TAKE THE INITIATIVE IN GETTING IN TOUCH WITH YOU AGAIN ON THIS SUBJECT.

7. YOU MAY WANT TO PASS THIS TO AMBASSADOR HELMS.  
BYROADE

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NNN

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